

**GROUP OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS OF THE STATES  
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS  
OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN  
CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED  
TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO  
HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS**

CCW/GGE/III/WP.1  
2 October 2002

Original: ENGLISH

Third Session  
Geneva, 2-10 December 2002

**Explosive Remnants of War: The way forward**

**Note by the Co-ordinator on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW)**

After consultations with a number of States Parties, it is the assessment of the Co-ordinator that the December meeting might seek to reach agreement on a proposal along the following lines:

**Draft Proposal**

“The Group of Governmental Experts recommends to the States Parties that it would continue its work in the year 2003 with the following mandate:

1. To negotiate an instrument on post-conflict remedial measures of a generic nature, which would reduce the risk of ERW. These measures would be based on a broad definition covering most types of ammunition, with the exception of mines. Abandoned munitions would have to be included. In these negotiations, questions need to be considered regarding, *inter alia*, responsibility for clearance, existing ERW, assistance & co-operation and a framework for regular consultations of High Contracting Parties. The scope of this instrument would include conflicts of a non-international nature.  
  
To address in these negotiations preventive generic measures for improving the reliability of munitions that fall within the agreed broad definition, including voluntary best practices concerning their manufacturing, quality control, handling and storage. Exchange of information, assistance and co-operation would be important elements of such best practices.
2. Separate from the negotiations under 1) to continue further study, on an open ended basis, on possible preventive measures aimed at improving the design of certain specific types of ammunition, in particular sub-munitions, with a view to minimise their risk of becoming ERW. Exchange of information, assistance and co-operation would be part of this work.
3. In the context of the activities described above, meetings of military experts can be conducted to provide advice in support of these activities.
4. To schedule [5] weeks of negotiating meetings in the year 2003. In each of these weeks, approximately one day could be devoted to the study described under 2), and half a day to a meeting of military experts.
5. To report to States Parties at their next meeting.”

